

like the Persian Gulf, Taiwan Straits, Somalia, and the Adriatic Sea off Bosnia. And on occasion, when force was the final resort as we have seen several times in the past few years in Iraq and Bosnia, Rear Admiral Pease was there, telling the story of the heroic American Sailor and his or her efforts in the face of adversity. Admiral Pease placed particular emphasis on the Sailor, because he realized that they were the backbone of the fleet—the ingenuity of the individual American Sailor is what make our Navy the greatest one in the world.

Rear Admiral Pease was a master of presenting the Navy's role in world events to the American public. He personally mentored hundreds of junior officers who were members of the Navy public affairs community; he was demanding, but mostly of himself, often arriving at the Pentagon before six a.m. and routinely working until nine or ten at night. His untiring commitment led to a remarkable increase in America's understanding of the Navy and its people. He clearly played a significant role in the shaping of public opinion and the future of the sea service.

Admiral Pease was an innovative communicator. He was at the forefront of promoting digital photography to tell a story half a world away; he also used video teleconferencing at sea and the internet to carry the Navy's message. And his tenure as the Chief of Information saw incredible evolution not only in the way the Navy communicates with the public, but also with Sailors. He refined the Navy's internal publications, reorganized and enhanced the Navy's weekly news program "Navy and Marine Corps News", and pioneered Direct to Sailor television aboard ships at sea—satellite technology destined to bring live television programming to all Navy ships in the next decade.

Perhaps most of all, Rear Admiral Pease was valued not only for his ability as a communicator, but more importantly as a strategic, big picture thinker, advisor and the voice of reason. He served three Secretaries of the Navy and three Chiefs of Naval Operations during his six years as the Chief of Information. A man of unparalleled vision, his opinion weighed significantly more than the two stars he wore on his collar would indicate. He is a man who served his country loyally and truly epitomizes the Navy core values of honor, courage and commitment.

I know the Members join me in this tribute to Rear Admiral Kendall Pease, who has truly given his all to the United States Navy for the last 34 years.

ROSAS COMMUNITY AWARDS

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, one of my greatest pleasures in serving in this Congress is the opportunity to recognize outstanding people for their accomplishments. Former Councilwoman Joan Griffin McCabe, Captain James L. Luongo, and Edmundo Quinones are people who have dedicated their lives to the public good. In recognition of their service, they will be receiving the Revitalization of the Southern Area of the Slope community service awards this Thursday evening.

Former Councilwoman Joan Griffin McCabe has distinguished herself through her lifelong career as an education activist. Starting in 1991, Ms. McCabe spent six years as the representative of the 38th District in the New York City Council. During her two terms, Ms. McCabe produced many tangible benefits for the community, including protection of the environmental integrity of the Brooklyn Waterfront and \$120 million dollars from the city government for school textbooks. Her work on behalf of students in New York city has earned her wide recognition.

Captain James L. Luongo has earned recognition as a result of his nearly twenty years of service in the NYC Police Department. Captain Luongo is the commanding officer of the 78th Precinct and a member of the Honor Legion. He has previous experience in Patrol, Narcotics, and Detective work. Captain Luongo's work in the NYC has made the city a safer place in which to live.

Edmundo Quinones is the Deputy Director of Social Services at Project Reach Youth in Park Slope. Mr. Quinones has spent his life work for the public good with children and families. He has worked for a myriad of goals, leading support groups for parents and teens, organizing parent advocacy groups for school reform, and helping teen parents and run-aways. Edmundo Quinones has earned this recognition as the result of his lifetime of service to the families of Park Slope.

I hope that all of my colleagues will join me today in honoring these three, their lives spent working for the public weal are an inspiration to us all.

PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL VISITS WASHINGTON, DC

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to praise the hard work of those who organized the Portsmouth Middle School Annual Field Trip to Washington, DC. Every year a group of students from the school are taken to the Capitol to have a tour. A number of people put a great deal of time and effort into organizing this trip. In fact these same dedicated individuals have been making this trip for over twenty years. I would like to acknowledge these people for the work they have done. Richard Munch, Beverly Tavares, Paul Fuller, Andrew Schlachter, Harold Weymouth, Beverly Mankofsky, Jackie Shearman, Heather Baker. Without their constant help and support the trip would not take place.

The trip enables young students to see the Capitol up close and they learn a great deal of how the government works. It is important that our young people get to see for themselves the legislative process. The get a tour of the Capitol which goes through all aspects of the legislature. They are able to learn the procedures of Congress and they get a taste of how the process functions. This is a very educational tour as these students are able to hear the history of the nation and the capital. They go to Congressional offices, are shown through the Capitol and see the House in action.

I believe that it is an important aspect of our democracy that people can come and see the political process themselves. Many members of the populace never get a chance to do this. Often the legislative process seems far removed from the average persons everyday life. It is often seen as a process that they cannot have any part in. We need to educate people in what we do, to show them that we are here to serve them and that we are answerable to them. This is how our democracy works and young people should be aware of these principles.

The Capitol tour gives a taste of the history of the United States. I believe that these young people need to learn about their history and the work that our great leaders have put into creating the nation we have today. It is the people that I mentioned above from Portsmouth Middle School who make this trip possible. They have over the years acted beyond the call of duty to make these trips work. I would like to acknowledge their efforts and note that I appreciate the work they do to show a new generation of young people our democratic process.

SALUTING THE EARTHLINK NETWORK

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, the truest test of a company's service is the satisfaction of its customers. As a testament to its high level of customer commitment, one company in my district has been recognized recently for rising to the top in the Internet Service Provider market: the Earthlink Network.

In mid-1994, an enterprising young businessman, Sky Dayton, founded a local Internet access provider to take advantage of a void where larger national companies had lapsed. Mr. Dayton quickly capitalized on his local niche, and fostered the development of Earthlink Network into what is today the world's largest independent Internet access firm.

While achieving success was by no means a smooth journey, word of Earthlink's dedication to service quickly spread, winning them accolades from newspapers and magazines across the country. Among their achievements in the professional realm, none is more significant than the news last month that the Earthlink Network had surpassed the 500,000-customer mark.

By ensuring that its services were operational over 99 percent of the time, and by providing consistent quality customer service, Earthlink Network is demonstrating that true entrepreneurial spirit thrives in the 27th Congressional District. One man's idea for a new start-up business has steadily grown into a trendsetter in the industry. Just last year, the Los Angeles Times reported: "[Earthlink] has combined good marketing, good service, good capital-raising ability and good attention to strategic detail to grow from nothing to almost 400,000 subscribers in just three years."

Mr. Speaker, I echo these same sentiments. In just a few years the Internet has grown from the brainchild of a few computer experts to the modus operandi of school children,

businesses, and industries around the world. Earthlink Network has developed a loyal following by harnessing the power of the Internet, and presenting it to consumers in an understandable and user-friendly format. For their dedication to quality and their innovations in the access provider industry, I ask my colleagues here today to join me in saluting the excellence of Earthlink Network, and in congratulating them on their 500,000th customer.

DRUG FREE BORDERS ACT

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute all of my colleagues who joined me last night in supporting the Drug Free Borders Act. I would especially like to commend Congressman PHILIP CRANE (R-IL) for his leadership in introducing this legislation and following through with its rapid progression.

The Drug Free Borders Act plays an important role in our renewed efforts to win the War on Drugs by authorizing an additional \$233 million for the U.S. Customs Service. This legislation also calls for 1,745 more Customs inspectors and special agents, as well as new drug-screening technologies to assist in existing interdiction efforts.

As a resident of the Southern California region bordering Mexico, I am well-aware of the issues that surround the importation of narcotics. As the Congressional Representative for the 48th District of California, I know that our efforts are best directed at strengthening the security at our ports of entry in order to curb this disturbing practice.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday's passage of the Drug Free Borders Act is one more sign of this Congress' commitment to winning the War on Drugs. I applaud my colleagues and urge them to persist with this battle.

CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, May 20, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

REFORMING CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL

One of the biggest changes I have seen during my years in Congress is an explosion in the number of complex issues Members of Congress are called upon to consider. Fortunately, Members have a host of resources on which they can rely for information, but these are no substitute for a Member's personal observations and experience. To get the broadest possible exposure to issues before Congress, Members must sometimes travel.

Congressional travel is frequently viewed with skepticism by the public, who worry that Members travel too often at too great an expense, with more emphasis on recreation than substance. They also voice concern about trips paid for by special-interest groups who are trying to influence the legis-

lative process. Congress has in recent years placed greater restrictions on travel, but occasional reports of abuses continue to raise the public's ire, with the unfortunate effect of discouraging some legitimate and useful congressional travel. Many Members do not travel at all because they fear the political consequences from being accused of taking a junket. I recently introduced a travel reform package which seeks to address some of the problems with congressional travel while enhancing its benefits to Congress and the public.

Reasons for travel: Domestic and foreign travel can greatly enhance a Member's knowledge, improving the quality of legislation and congressional oversight. In our system of government, Congress has the power of the purse. With this power to spend money comes the equally important responsibility to ensure that it is well-spent; and direct, personal oversight by Members of Congress is essential. Some congressional trips save taxpayer dollars by exposing wasteful programs both at home and abroad. Travel can improve a Member's understanding of the impact government policies have on a particular region or group of citizens and can also increase the public's knowledge of issues before Congress.

Foreign travel increases the expertise of Members on programs and issues that commit significant United States resources abroad, from programs to promote U.S. exports to overseas military deployments to food aid for developing nations. Travel also alerts Members to foreign trade opportunities which can directly benefit constituents in their home districts. Moreover, Members can advance our national interests: because they do not represent the President directly, sometimes they can say things that U.S. diplomats cannot. It is ironic that there are strong pressures against foreign congressional travel at the very time that America's security and economic interests are broader and more complex than ever.

Problems: The purpose of some congressional travel, however, is dubious. Particularly troublesome is travel paid for by groups who have a direct interest in legislation before Congress. Some groups, for example, will invite Members and staff to attend seminars or conferences at resorts or other appealing locations. Though these meetings are ostensibly to explore important issues, most are really aimed at advancing a specific point of view and gaining access for lobbyists to key Members and staff. These sorts of trips create at the very least the perception that Members of Congress are accepting nice trips in exchange for their votes. While I think this sort of gross exchange of votes for favors is rare, these trips do allow special interests to have greater access to Members of Congress, and with access often comes influence.

There are also questions about whether Members travel too lavishly and at too great an expense. Many congressional trips involve the use of military aircraft, which is sometimes justified. In addition, Members' spouses sometimes accompany them on trips, even though there may not be in all cases a legitimate reason for them to do so.

Reforms needed: Congress can do a better job of ensuring that travel serves legitimate purposes. Recent reforms have been helpful. In 1995, for example, the House enacted a gift ban which required Members and staff to disclose any travel paid for by private funds and emphasized that trips must relate to the official business of the House. But loopholes remain in the rules. In an effort to improve accountability in congressional travel, I recently introduced a travel reform resolution which would:

Improve reporting requirements: The House currently requires Members and staff to file

reports for certain types of travel. These reports often include the source of funds paying for travel, and an estimate of the cost of transportation, food, lodging, and other expenses. My proposal would require reports to also include a detailed itinerary and policy findings and recommendations; more information on private sources who fund trips; estimates of the costs of travel provided by a foreign government; and, if transportation is provided by the Department of Defense, an estimate of the cost equivalent commercial transportation.

Make travel records more accessible to the public: Currently, only reports for government-funded foreign travel are made widely available to the public. My proposal would require the House to publish in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and on the Internet a compilation of all travel reports for each calendar quarter, as well as an annual summary of all House travel.

Ethics Committee approval for privately-funded trips: Under my proposal, travel funded by private sources would require advance authorization from the House Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee would have to examine whether the person or group paying for the trip has a direct interest in legislation before Congress, and whether acceptance of the trip would have an adverse impact on the integrity of the legislative process.

Restrict perks: My proposal would prohibit Members and staff from accepting first-class airfare. Meals and lodging in excess of the federal employee per-diem rate would also be prohibited unless previously authorized by the House Ethics Committee. Moreover, travel by spouses or family members would be limited.

Conclusion: I firmly believe that when congressional travel is done right, it can greatly benefit Members of Congress and the citizens they represent. The question is not whether to abolish congressional travel, but how to get rid of frivolous travel while maintaining the worthwhile. My hope is that by putting in place stronger safeguards against travel abuses, good, substantive congressional travel will enjoy the support of Members and the public.

CONGRESSIONAL SENIOR CITIZEN INTERN PROGRAM

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, each year during the month of May our nation celebrates National Senior Citizen Month. All throughout May, various communities around the nation celebrate the diverse contributions of their senior citizens. In recognition and in conjunction with National Senior Citizen month, senior citizens from across the United States are gathering on Capitol Hill to participate in the annual Congressional Senior Citizen Intern Program.

The annual senior intern program provides our nation's senior citizens with a firsthand look at their government in action. While participating as interns in Washington, D.C., they attend meetings, issue forums, and workshops on topics which impact the elderly community in particular. The Senior Citizen Intern Program also allows its participants a chance to engage their congressional leaders, members